

TAMARA MADISON

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Making way

In early spring unseen beyond green-  
threaded sycamores, geese announce

their flight. It's hard, this getting up  
and walking out, this making use

of a brilliant morning. But the birds'  
excited voices full of plans and portent

take me back to autumn, when they flew  
over the field where we walked

among the blown and withered leaves;  
they passed low above us and we saw

their downy bellies. Beneath their harsh  
cries we heard the feathered machinery

of their flight and I forgot for a moment  
the painful creaking of my knees,

so like the trees' complaints as they move  
their limbs aside, making way for wind.

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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Tamara Madison is the author of *The Belly Remembers*, *Wild Domestic*, and *Moraine* (Pearl Editions 2004, 2011, and 2017 respectively). Her work has appeared in *Chiron Review*, *Your Daily Poem*, *A Year of Being Here*, *Nerve Cowboy*, *Sheila-Na-Gig*, and elsewhere. She lives in Los Alamitos, California, and can be found online at [tamaramadisonpoetry.com](http://tamaramadisonpoetry.com).

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